

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a constant ~~envelop~~envelope combined signal, comprising:
 - generating a combined signal that is a combination of a plurality of input signals;
 - attenuating amplitudes of selected ones of the input signals to generate attenuated input signals; and
 - outputting the attenuated input signals and other non-attenuated input signals for generating the constant ~~envelop~~envelope combined signal.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - generating a similarity measurement between each of the input signals and the combined signal; and
 - selecting ones of the input signals based on the similarity measurement.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, generating a similarity measurement comprising:
 - multiplying time values of each of the input signals with corresponding time values of the combined signal to generate products; and
 - summing the products to form the similarity measurement.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, ~~the~~ generating a similarity measurement further comprising ~~comprising~~:
 - _____cross-correlating each of the input signals with the combined signal.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, ~~the~~ cross-correlating each of the input signals further comprising:

sweeping one of each of the input signals and the combined signal pass each other; and

generating a dot product for each sweep increment between overlapping portions of each of the input signals and the combined signal.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, ~~the~~ selecting ones of the input signals further comprising:

comparing the similarity measurements with one of a predetermined selection threshold value or a parameter based on a combined signal power value to generate comparison results; and

selecting the ones of the input signals based on the comparison results.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, ~~the~~ selecting ones of the input signals further comprising:

_____ comparing the similarity measurements with each other; and

selecting N number of input signals that correspond to N largest similarity measurements, where N is a positive integer.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising determining a value for N by empirical analysis of combined signals.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating attenuation values corresponding to each of the selected ones of the input signals.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, ~~the~~ generating attenuation values further comprising at least one of:

selecting one of a predetermined attenuation value or an generated attenuation value based on a number of selected ones of the input signals;

generating an attenuation value based on an amount that the combined signal exceeded one of a threshold or a combined signal power value;

generating an attenuation value for each of the selected ones of the input signals based on a magnitude of the similarity measurements;~~or~~ and

generating attenuation values for each of the selected ones of the input signals based on at least one of magnitudes of the similarity measurements, the combined signal power value, ~~or~~ and the amount that the combined signal exceeded one of the threshold or the combined signal power value.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the combined signal is generated by summing the input signals.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~the wherein~~ generating a combined signal, ~~the~~ attenuating amplitudes of selected ones of the input signals, and ~~the~~ outputting the attenuated input signals and other non-attenuated input signals are performed using analog or digital techniques.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a constant ~~envelop~~ envelope combined signal, comprising:

generating a combined signal that is a combination of a plurality of input signals;

generating a similarity measurement between each of the input signals and the combined signal;

comparing the similarity measurements with one of a predetermined selection threshold value or a parameter based on a combined signal power value to generate comparison results;

selecting the ones of the input signals based on the comparison results; attenuating amplitudes of the selected ones of the input signals to generate attenuated input signals; and outputting the attenuated input signals and other non-attenuated input signals for generating the constant ~~envelop~~ envelope combined signal.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that outputs signals that combines into a constant ~~envelop~~-envelope combined signal, comprising:

a controller; and

a memory coupled to the controller, the controller generating a combined signal that is a combination of a plurality of input signals, and attenuating amplitudes of selected ones of the input signals to generate attenuated input signals, wherein the attenuated input signals and other non-attenuated input signals may be output for combination to form the constant ~~envelop~~-envelope combined signal.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the controller comprises:

a similarity measurement device; and

an attenuation value generator, the similarity measurement device generating a similarity measurement between each of the input signals and the combined signal, and the attenuation value generator selecting ones of the input signals based on the similarity measurement.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the similarity measurement device generates the similarity measurement by multiplying sample values of each of the input signals with corresponding values of the combined signal to generate products, and summing the products to form the similarity measurement.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the similarity measurement device generates the similarity measurement by cross-correlating each of the input signals with the combined signal.

18. (Original) The apparatus claim 17, wherein the cross-correlating comprises: sweeping one of each of the input signals and the combined signal pass each other; and

generating a dot product for each sweep increment between overlapping portions of each of the input signals and the combined signal.

19. (Original) The apparatus claim 15, wherein the attenuation value generator selects the ones of the input signals by:

comparing the similarity measurements with one of a predetermined selection threshold value or a parameter based on a combined signal power value to generate comparison results; and

selecting the ones of the input signals based on the comparison results.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the attenuation value generator selects the ones of the input signals by:

comparing the similarity measurements with each other; and

selecting N number of input signals that correspond to N largest similarity measurements, where N is a positive integer.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein a value for N is determined by empirical analysis of combined signals.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the attenuation value generator generates attenuation values corresponding to each of the selected ones of the input signals.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the attenuation value generator generates attenuation values by at least one of:

selecting one of a predetermined attenuation value or an generated attenuation value based on a number of selected ones of the input signals;

generating an attenuation value based on an amount that the combined signal exceeded one of a threshold or a combined signal power value;

generating an attenuation value for each of the selected ones of the input signals based on a magnitude of the similarity measurements; ~~or~~ and

generating attenuation values for each of the selected ones of the input signals based on at least one of magnitudes of the similarity measurements, the combined signal power value, ~~or~~ and the amount that the combined signal exceeded one of the threshold or the combined signal power value.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the combined signal is generated by summing the input signals.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the apparatus generates the constant ~~envelop~~ envelope combined signal using analog or digital techniques.

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that outputs signals that combines into a constant ~~envelop~~ envelope combined signal, comprising:

a controller;

a memory coupled to the controller;

a combiner that generates a combined signal that is a combination of a plurality of input signals;

a similarity measurement device that generating a similarity measurement between each of the input signals and the combined signal; and

an attenuation value generator that selects ones of the input signals based on the similarity measurement;

an attenuator that attenuates amplitudes of the selected ones of the input signals to generate attenuated input signals; and

an output interface that outputs the attenuated input signals and other non-attenuated input signals that may be combined to form the constant ~~envelop~~ envelope combined signal.

27. (Currently Amended) A device for generating a constant ~~envelop~~ envelope combined signal, comprising:

means for generating a combined signal that is a combination of a plurality of input signals;

means for generating a similarity measurement between each of the input signals and the combined signal;

means for comparing the similarity measurements with one of a predetermined selection threshold value or a parameter based on a combined signal power value to generate comparison results;

means for selecting the ones of the input signals based on the comparison results;

means for attenuating amplitudes of the selected ones of the input signals to generate attenuated input signals; and

means for outputting the attenuated input signals and other non-attenuated input signals for generating the constant ~~envelop~~ envelope combined signal.